

**Supplemental
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/721,399

Examiner

SYED BOKHARI

Applicant(s)

BACCELLI ET AL.

Art Unit

2473

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 25, 2-4, 7-11, 24 and 12-15, 18-22 renumbered as 1-10 and 11-19 respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Syed Bokhari/
Examiner, Art Unit 2473

/KWANG B. YAO/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2473

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Nathaniel T. Wallace, Reg. No. 48,909 on 11/03/2009.

The Specification has been amended as follows:

Amend the Brief Description of the Drawings found at page 4, line 19, as follows:

~~Fig. 1 is a flow chart showing a method of segmentation according to an embodiment of the present invention;~~

~~Fig. 2a shows an input image according to an embodiment of the present invention;—~~

~~Fig. 2b shows a histogram of the input image of Fig. 2a, fitted with a mixture of Gaussians according to an embodiment of the present invention;~~

~~Fig. 2c shows a myocardium response image according to an embodiment of the present invention;~~

~~Figs. 3a-b show an example of two passes of Dijkstra's method according to an embodiment of the present invention;~~

~~Figs. 4a-f show an example of applying shape constraints to recover the myocardium contours according to an embodiment of the present invention;~~

~~Figs. 5a-d show an example of a graph cut method according to an embodiment of the present invention; and~~

~~— Fig. 6 is a graph showing a cumulative distribution of error distances between true contours and segmented contours, over all points, over all images, and over all patients.~~

FIG. 1 is a diagram of an IP-multicast communications group;

FIG. 2 is a diagram of a system according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a diagram of a communications group according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a flow chart of a method according to an embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 5 is a flow chart of a method according to an embodiment of the present invention.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SYED BOKHARI whose telephone number is (571)270-

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3115. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00-17:00 Hrs..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kwang B. Yao can be reached on (571) 272-3182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Syed Bokhari/
Examiner, Art Unit 2473
11/4/2009

/KWANG B. YAO/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2473